

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ROME 11683 181731Z

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 EPG-02 SIL-01 DHA-02

/103 W

-----102530 182144Z /64

R 181633Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5951

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 11683

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, APER

SUBJ: ORGANIZING FOR MULTILATERAL DIPLOMACY

REF: STATE 148782

1. U.S. EMPHASIS ON MULTILATERAL DIPLOMACY FULLY IN CONCONANCE WITH SITUATION IN ITALY. WHILE THERE ARE FEW SIGNIFICANT EXCEPTIONS (E.G. CERTAIN LOS MATTERS, POLICY TOWARD YUGOSLAVIA), GREAT MAJORITY OF FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES ARE EXAMINED, DECISIONS TAKEN AND PROGRAMS EXECUTED IN MULTILATERAL CONTEXTS AND FORA. THESE MULTILATERAL CONTEXTS AND FORA ARE LARGELY EUROPEAN/WESTERN ONES, E.G. EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES AND NATO. TYPICAL REACTION OF GOI TO FOREIGN POLICY PROBLEMS AND ISSUES IS TO SOUND OUT OTHER MEMBERS OF RELEVANT GROUP AS A FIRST STEP.

2. GOI VIEWS TEND TO BE CONGRUENT WITH OURS, AND ITALIAN LEADERS ARE GENUINELY ANXIOUS TO BE HELPFUL TO U.S. INTERESTS WHENEVER POSSIBLE. HOWEVER, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONSTRAINTS, REAL OR PERCEIVED, LEAD THE ITALIANS CONSISTENTLY TOWARD CONFORTABLE CONSENSUS, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ROME 11683 181731Z

AND AWAY FROM BOLD OR EXPOSED POSITIONS. UNLESS PARTICULAR ITALIAN INTERESTS ARE INVOLVED, IT IS RATHER DIFFICULT TO PERSUADE GOI TO ADOPT STRONG POSITION, PARTICULARLY ON CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES. IN ADDITION, WHEN THERE IS CONFLICT BETWEEN U.S. AND EC POSITIONS, GOI WILL SELDOM OPT FOR U.S. SIDE.

3. TO MAINTAIN AND EXPAND THE CURRENT LEVEL OF ITALIAN SUPPORT FOR AMERICAN INTERESTS IN MULTILATERAL SETTINGS, TO TRANSLATE GENERALIZED ITALIAN AGREEMENT WITH US INTO SPECIFIC ACTIVISM ON TOUGH ISSUES, WE SHOULD:

A. CONSULT EARLY AND WELL. TIME OUR APPROACHES TO CATCH GOI POLICIES IN THE FORMATIVE STAGE SO THAT OUR VIEWS WILL BE PRELUDE, NOT POSTSCRIPT, TO DECISION. LAST MINUTE OR ILL-PREPARED INTERVENTIONS DO NOT HELP, THEY HURT.

B. BE SELECTIVE. HIGH-LEVEL APPROACHES, PARTICULARLY THOSE WHICH WOULD ELICIT GOI SUPPORT VIS-A-VIS OTHER STATES, SHOULD

BEAR ON CASES WHERE ITALIAN RELEVANCE, WEIGHT OR SPECIAL INTEREST IS CLEAR. THE ITALIANS WOULD, FOR EXAMPLE BE FAR MORE PRONE TO MAKE THE U.S. CASE IN MOGADISCIO THAN IN, SAY, LUSAKA.

C. GIVE THE EMBASSY MAXIMUM POSSIBLE DISCRETION ON LEVEL AND TIMING OF DEMARCHES. GOI ABSORPTIVE CAPACITY IS LIMITED; IN PAST WE HAVE FOUND THAT TOO FREQUENT APPROACHES HAVE PRODUCED NOT ONLY ZERO BUT POSSIBLY NEGATIVE RETURNS. IN CASES OF LESSER IMPORTANCE TO U.S., EMBASSY SHOULD WHENEVER POSSIBLE BE LEFT DISCRETION AS TO WHETHER MATTER SHOULD BE RAISED FORMALLY OR CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ROME 11683 181731Z

INFORMALLY, INDEED AS TO WHETHER IT SHOULD BE RAISED AT ALL. GARDNER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ROME11683
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770256-0434
Format: TEL
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770747/aaaabofu.tel
Line Count: 96
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9b871d68-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 148782
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1828829
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ORGANIZING FOR MULTILATERAL DIPLOMACY
TAGS: PFOR, PORG, APER, XX
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9b871d68-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009